

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2190
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL
Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the import of edible oils like palm oil and soyabean oil has done considerable damage to coconut oil and other domestically produced vegetable oils;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received any request from Kerala Government for enhancing the import duty on edible oils;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the import of edible oils in order to protect the domestic industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

- (a): No, Sir.
- (b) & (c): No request from Kerala Government for enhancing the import duty on edible oils has been received, recently.
- (d): Steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard include:-
 - (i) The import duty structure of edible oils is reviewed from time to time.
 - (ii) With effect from 15.2.2005, import duty on Crude Palm Oil/Crude Palmolein has been raised from 65% to 80% and import duty on refined Palm Oil/RBD Palmolein has been raised from 75% to 90%.
 - (iii) Tariff Value is fixed from time to time for palm oil and its products and soyabean oil.
 - (iv) The use of indigenous oils in the manufacture of vanaspati to at least 12% of the production has been made mandatory.